

California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley

Partnership Board Meeting

Wednesday, June 7, 2006

1:30 PM – 5:00 PM

California State University Stanislaus

Event Center, Room 108

801 W. Monte Vista Avenue

Turlock, California 95382

– Summary of Meeting Proceedings –

I. Call to Order

Secretary Sunne Wright McPeak welcomed attendees and called the meeting of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley to order at California State University Stanislaus at 1:30 PM on Wednesday, June 7, 2006.

II. Approval of Minutes from the March 9-10, 2006 and April 6-7, 2006 Board Meetings

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as prepared of the March 9-10, 2006 and April 6-7, 2006 Board meetings. Secretary McPeak noted no objection and ruled that the motion passed by consensus.

III. Discussion and Determination of Socio-Economic and Demographic Overviews of Each County and Region

There were no comments on the socio-economic and demographic overview reports on each county and the region prepared by the Great Valley Center. Supervisor Gary Gilbert reported that he has referred the section on Madera County staff for review. Secretary McPeak stated that if there were not comments on the overview reports they would stand as prepared.

IV. Presentation and approval of Revised Vision Statements for Each Work Group

Carol Whiteside and Ashley Swearingen reported that the vision statements revisions for each Work Group were in progress and would be distributed to the Board when completed.

V. Work Group Reports for Strategic Action Proposal

Each Work Group distributed its draft plan and briefly highlighted the main points in their written document:

Economic Development: Supervisor Jeff Grover and Ashley Swearengin distributed the Work Group draft report and briefly summarized its content, including the identification of key industry clusters for strategic focus.

Higher Education and Workforce Development: Ashley Swearengin reported for the Work Group and focused on proposals for the UC Merced Medical School and vocational education.

K-12 Education: Mayor Autry and Ricardo Soto distributed the draft Work Group report and focused on the need for increased accountability for educational performance. It was noted that both bills regarding school accountability previously presented to the Board by Assemblyman Arambula failed passage in the Legislature.

Transportation and Telecommunications: Ray Dezember gave an oral update for both Work Groups. The Telecommunications Work Group is pleased to be working with the Great Valley Center on a rural telecommunications project in the Tulare County town of Pixley. The Transportation Work Group is continuing to monitor the \$6 billion for Highway 99, the Goods Movement Action Plan, and the short sea shipping concept which would remove trucks from Highway 99. He introduced Caltrans District 10 Director Kome Ajose who commented about working with the COGs and District 6 on the San Joaquin Valley Regional Blueprint Plan.

Land Use, Agriculture and Housing: Carol Whiteside reported that in addition to the San Joaquin County Supervisors Association, the San Joaquin Valley League of California Cities has adopted growth principles. The indication from the Councils of Government in the San Joaquin Valley was that they would prefer to look as far out as 2050 in order to better address the issue of jobs-housing balance.

Air Quality and Environmental Protection: Pete Weber reported that the Work Group has developed 28 priority actions to try to achieve attainment by 2013.

Water Quality, Supply, Reliability and Energy: Jim Tischer reported that the water group was focusing on working in parallel with the Congressional water planning process. Paul Boyer distributed copies of a revised resolution on water storage and presented the contents to the Board. Board discussion followed the presentation. The attached resolution was adopted by consensus with the Cabinet Secretaries recusing themselves from the discussion and decision.

Health and Human Services: Fritz Grupe reported that the Work Group met with hospital administrators earlier in the week and will meet with county health and welfare directors in the near future. Major issues for discussion are care for the uninsured, the shortage of health care workers, and improving health care delivery for those on public assistance.

VI. Report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Innovative Funding and Financing

Ad Hoc Committee Chairman Pete Weber reported that the budget item requested by the Governor for \$5 million to fund implementation of the Strategic Action Proposal was removed from the budget in the Legislature's Conference Committee. Secretary McPeak and Deputy Chair Fritz Grupe briefly described what had happened. Secretary McPeak arranged to have Margaret Fortune, Director of External Affairs for the Governor, Richard Costigan, Legislative Secretary for the Governor, and Mark Hill, from the Department of Finance, join the Partnership meeting by conference call to explain the matter in greater detail and to outline the steps being taken to encourage the Conference Committee to amend its report to reinclude the funding. Board members shared with the Governor's Office what actions were being taken locally to talk with Legislators and to ask interested parties to contact the Legislative leadership and conferees.

Pete Weber also reported on the initial meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Innovative Funding and Financing and asked for professional staff assistance from the Administration.

VII. Discussion and Preliminary Decisions on Organizational Structure Options for Implementation of the Strategic Action Proposal

A written “working” proposal for use of the \$5 million for implementation of the Strategic Action Proposal was distributed to the Board. It was prepared by the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency (BTH) in response to requests from legislators with the understanding that it had to be review and approved by the Board. The proposal anticipated that a successor governing entity would have to be established to implement the Strategic Action Proposal and there would be a need for ongoing, dedicated professional staffing. The proposal called for half of the \$5 million to be used for seed grants to implement the Strategic Action Proposal recommendations from Work Groups and for the other half to be used for dedicated staff support, communications, outreach, meetings, and annual reports and conferences. It is anticipated that the staffing is likely to be provided by existing organizations that have been involved with development of the Strategic Action Proposal. The proposal also provided for up to two additional staff at BTH to manage the application and contracts process related to staffing and the seed grants.

The Board discussed the working proposal and added suggestions for examples of prospective seed grant projects. A motion was made and seconded to support the proposed appropriation and written working proposal amended as suggested of \$5 million in the 2006-2007 state budget to implement the Strategic Action Proposal. Secretary McPeak noted no objection and the motion passed by consensus. Attached is the resulting approved proposal.

The discussion then turned to organizational structure options for implementation of the Strategic Action Proposal. Secretary McPeak distributed the attached summary delineating the organizational and legal options that had been suggested and discussed by the Board in a workshop in Merced on May 18th. Discussion of the viability and appropriateness of various options followed. The Board accepted by consensus the portions of the document pertaining to Background, Conclusions, Objectives and Characteristics of an organizational structure. The Board also adopted by consensus as a working concept the preference for the Composition of the Organizational Structure as set forth in the document, leaving open for further discussion the precise manner in which representatives of regional consortia of existing organizations would participate. Further, the Board acknowledged that the most expeditious legal mechanism for establishing an implementing organization would be by Executive Order and that approach would probably be preferable for a transition period of up to two years to determine if there was widespread agreement for another legal mechanism.

VIII. Report from the Federal Task Force

Rollie Smith from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department and staff to the Federal Task Force was introduced. He reported that the President’s Executive Order that created the San Joaquin Federal Task Force ends on December 31, 2006. The Task Force is in the process of writing its final report. He invited the Work Group conveners to provide recommendations for federal action in the next few weeks.

Discussion regarding a strategy for bringing more federal dollars into the San Joaquin Valley followed. Jonnalee Henderson of the Department of Food and Agriculture and Rollie were asked to investigate how much federal money California or Californians might be eligible for and are not receiving because of not applying.

IX. Updates from Designated Liaisons

Barry Hibbard, liaison for the Economic Strategy Panel (ESP), noted that the currently the ESP is focusing is on agriculture and food processing / manufacturing.

Barbara Patrick, liaison for the California Air Resources Board, thanked the Partnership for the opportunity to collaborate.

X. Schedule for the Remainder of 2006

The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley will next meet on July 27-28; location to be determined. Board members also were asked to hold the September 7-8, September 13-14 (one of those two-day spans will be selected as a meeting date) and October 26 -27.

Fritz Grupe reported that he, Connie Conway and Mike Lynch were working on scheduling a meeting with the California Legislature. Full information on arrangements will be forthcoming shortly.

XI. Other Business

The Board participated in an exercise to help prioritize the recommendations from the Work Groups and the Public Forums. The attached Outline for Consideration of Priorities was distributed as a background document for the exercise.

XII. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.

**California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley
Board of Directors Meeting
June 7, 2006
Attendance**

Board Members Present

Local Elected Officials

Mike Amabile, Mayor, City of Los Banos
Alan Autry, Mayor, City of Fresno
Paul Boyer, Council Member, City of Farmersville
Marci Buford, Council Member, City of Hanford
Connie Conway, Supervisor, Tulare County
Gary Gilbert, Supervisor, County of Madera
Jeff Grover, Supervisor, Stanislaus County

Civic Leaders

Sheila Carroll, Modesto
Ray Dezember, Bakersfield
Fritz Grupe, The Grupe Company, Stockton
Coke Hallowell, Madera County
Jose Rivera, Kaiser Permanente, Stockton
Fred Ruiz, Ruiz Foods, Dinuba
Lorraine Salazar, Sal's Mexican Restaurants, Fresno
Sharron Thornton, The Grass is Greener Landscape, Merced

Cabinet Secretaries

Mike Chrisman, Resources Agency
A. G. Kawamura, Department of Food & Agriculture
Sunne Wright McPeak, Business, Transportation & Housing Agency

Cabinet Designees

Ricardo Soto, Office of the Secretary of Education for Secretary Bersin
Kate Tansey, CA Labor & Workforce Development Agency for Secretary Bradshaw
Cindy Tuck, CA Environmental Protection Agency for Secretary Adams
Trina Gonzalez, CA Health & Human Services Agency for Secretary Belshe
Jay Chamberlin, CA Resources Agency for Secretary Chrisman

Appointed Liaisons

Barbara Patrick, Supervisor, Kern County, Liaison to the Air Resources Board
Pete Weber, ANRON International, Fresno, Liaison to the Federal Interagency Task Force
Barry Hibbard, Tejon Ranch Company, Liaison to the Economic Strategy Panel

Other Key Partners

Supporting Agencies

Heidi Arno, Great Valley Center
Carolyn Lott, Great Valley Center
Mike Lynch, Great Valley Center
Carol Whiteside, Great Valley Center
Ashley Swearengin, California State University Fresno
Jim Tischer, California State University Fresno
Ouida Braithwaite, Business, Transportation and Housing Agency
Belen Torres, Business, Transportation Housing Agency

Other Guests

Kome Ajose, Director, District 10, Caltrans
Willie Alcocer, Mayor Autry's office
Linda Beattie, EDD
Mariana Cordova, Student
Cheryl Lehn, Congressman Costa's office
Kyle Loreto, Mayor Autry's office
Nancy Lundgren, CDFA
Ann Marquez, CSU Fresno
Olivia Mendoza, Tulare County Workforce Investment Dept.
Dr. Hamid Shirvani, President, California State University Stanislaus
Rollie Smith, US Department of Housing & Urban Development